October 7, 2013

RE: Increased Penalties for Oversize/Overweight Vehicle Violations

Dear Motor Carriers and Shippers,

In an effort to keep you informed of legislative changes that could potentially impact your business, I am sending you this letter as a courtesy. On September 1, 2013, weight violation penalties were increased by the passage of House Bill (HB) 2741 during the 83rd Legislative Session.

Both motor carriers and shippers face stiff penalties for weight violations under the new law that aims to encourage compliance and prevent damage to Texas roads. It is strongly suggested that shippers provide a Certificate of Weight for motor carriers to keep in their cab for all overweight loads.

The enclosed brochure will provide you with an overview of the new penalties. The penalties will be assessed depending upon the size of the weight violation, as well as the number of times the offender has been convicted of a weight violation.

Although the above violations are enforced by the Texas Department of Public Safety, citations may trigger an administrative audit of a motor carrier or a shipper by the TxDMV's Enforcement Division and result in civil penalties and other sanctions. Please ensure that your shippers are aware of Transportation Code §623.274 that requires them to provide you with a Certificate of Weight prior to you seeking an overweight permit.

Should you need additional information regarding commercial vehicle size and weight regulations or permitting requirements, I encourage you to learn more by visiting our Motor Carrier Web Portal at www.TxDMV.gov.

Sincerely.

**Executive Director** 

Johnny Walker, Chairman, TxDMV Board CC:

> Shelly Mellott, Deputy Executive Director, TxDMV Jimmy Archer, Motor Carrier Division, TxDMV Bill Harbeson, Enforcement Division, TxDMV